

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 RSC-01

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R 140710Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2637

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON

SUBJ: WERTHEIM TEA PROPOSAL

REF: STATE 177993

1. EMBOFFS BRIEFED PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR LINDT
AND MOFA OFFICER MULINDANGABO RE DISCUSSIONS
SUMMARIZED REFTEL.

2. TWO QUESTIONS RAISED HERE NOT CLARIFIED BY
SUBSTANCE REFTEL:

A. DO SHORT-TERM LOANS MENTIONED PARA 1 (C)
CONSTITUTE CONTRIBUTION BY WERTHEIM OR OBLIGATION
TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY RWANDAN GOVERNMENT?

B. DOES EMPHASIS ON PROCESSING PLANT SUGGEST
WERTHEIM NO LONGER INTERESTED LAND CONCESSION?
AMBASSADOR LINDT SUGGESTED LAND CONCESSION NOW
NO PROBLEM BUT MULINDANGABO SAID DROPPING LAND
CONCESSION DEMAND WOULD MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR
RWANDAN GOVERNMENT. APPEARS THAT LAND CONCESSION
MIGHT BE NEGOTIABLE POINT.

3. MULINDANGABO NOW DRAFTING RESPONSE TO WERT ZIM'S
EIGHT POINTS SAID LETTER WOULD BE AS POSITIVE AS
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POSSIBLE. HE UNDERTOOK CONTACT NATIONAL BANK

GOVERNOR BIRARA IMMEDIATELY HIS RETURN ON THE QUESTION
RWANDAN CONTRIBUTION \$500,000.

4. AMBASSADOR LINDT FEELS AND EMBASSY
CONCURS THAT SCALING DOWN OF WERTHEIM'S INVESTMENT
AND PREDOMINATE PROPORTION RWANDAN SHARE MAKE PROJECT
ESSENTIALLY A STATE CORPORATION VULNERABLE TO
BUREAUCRATIC MEDDLING. LARGER INPUT PRIVATE SECTOR
OR OTHER EXTERNAL CAPITAL SOURCE WOULD MAKE PROJECT
MORE VIABLE. FED OFFICE HERE CONTACTING HEADQUARTERS
TO ASSESS INTEREST WERTHEIM PROJECT.
CAN DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OTHER SOURCES FOR
FINANCING SCHEME?
RAWSON

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